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NASA TECH BRIEF



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Development of Electronic Data Processing (EDP)-Augmented Management System

Program management is the unified direction of a program to a planned objective, within specified time frame, cost, and performance parameters. The act of managing is essentially a decision-making and directive function. The prime requirement for human decision making is timely, pertinent, and accurate intelligence upon which to base each decision. With the concept of top-level program management carried out by a Government Agency, with associated contractors contributing, there is a hard-core requirement for a flow of quick reaction, guaranteed-reliable, filtered data between both the contractor program management team and the Government Agency program management team. When, as in the case of "Technical Integration and Evaluation," the program participants are geographically scattered, data generation, selection, auditing, editing, formatting, transmitting, and its display and discussion become tasks of major significance. Present "manual" methods can be replaced in some cases, and in others made more effective, by the addition of EDP techniques to the process.

With limited redesign to tailor the existing "Unified Flight Analysis System" to management data rather than technical data, a pilot model could be produced in "breadboard" form in a matter of a few months at

very moderate cost. From that point, a job of system engineering could refine the "breadboard" into a complete system tailored to fit both short-term and long-term management needs.

Notes:

1. Such a system lends itself to continuous refinement up to modular form and could be preprogrammed on delivery to cover a specific package of management parameters. Specific additions to the preprogrammed package could be added to accommodate unique or follow-on requirements of any program on which it is used.
2. Inquiries concerning this innovation may be directed to:

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Reference: B68-10287

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

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